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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/065,333	10/04/2002	Sreenath Mambakkam	6284.P002	2196
8791	7590	07/23/2004	EXAMINER	
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN 12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SEVENTH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90025			SHANKAR, VIJAY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2673	9
DATE MAILED: 07/23/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/065,333	MAMBAKKAM ET AL.	
	Examiner VIJAY SHANKAR	Art Unit 2673	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 June 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 11-25 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-10,26 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
- Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-10 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hanson et al (6,460,094).

Regarding Claim 1, Hanson et al teaches an apparatus comprising a serial port (45, 46 in fig.1) configured to interface with a separate host (fig.1-3; col.3, line 35 - col.4, line 65); one serial interface engine (SIE) connected to the serial port (fig.1-3); a first interface unit (40 in fig.1) and a second interface unit (30 in fig.1) connected to the serial interface engine (summary; figs. 1-5; col.3, line 35- col.5, line 63).

Regarding Claim 2, Hanson et al teaches that the first interface unit is a keyboard interface (40 in fig.1).

Regarding Claim 3, Hanson et al teaches that the second interface unit is a flash media drive interface is same as optical disk drive (30 in fig.1; col.3, lines 45 - 62).

Regarding Claim 4, Hanson et al teaches that the apparatus further includes a virtual hub comprising a firmware unit configured to emulate a hub having multiple ports (Fig.1; col.3, lines 21-35).

Regarding Claim 5, Hanson et al teaches that the apparatus is housed within a keyboard. (40 in fig.1)

Regarding Claim 6, Hanson et al teaches that the apparatus is a Universal Serial Bus (USB) peripheral (100 in fig.2a, 120 in fig.2b) and the serial port is a Universal Serial Bus port (45 in fig.1; 102 in fig.2a,2b).

Regarding Claim 7, Hanson et al teaches that the apparatus wherein the serial interface engine is connected to a controller, and the first interface unit and the second interface unit are connected to the controller (figs. 1,5; col.3, line 36- col.4, line 51; col.8, line 15- col.9 , line 20).

Regarding Claim 8, Hanson et al teaches that the third interface unit (42 in fig.1) is connected to the serial interface unit (fig.1; col.3, line 36- col.4, line 51).

Regarding Claim 9 , Hanson et al teaches that the apparatus wherein the serial port, the serial interface engine (SIE), and the first interface unit and the second interface unit are integrated on a signal device (fig.1; col.3, line 36- col.4, line 51).

Regarding Claim 10, Hanson et al teaches that the third interface is connected to the serial port, the third interface having a second serial interface engine (fig.1; col.3, line 36- col.4, line 51).

Regarding Claim 26, Hanson et al teaches an apparatus comprising a serial port (45, 46 in fig.1) configured to interface with a separate host (fig.1-3; col.3, line 35 - col.4, line 65); one serial interface engine (SIE) connected to the serial port (fig.1-3); a keyboard interface unit (40 in fig.1) and a flash media drive interface unit interface is same as optical disk drive (30 in fig.1; col.3, lines 45 - 62) connected to the serial interface engine (summary; figs. 1-5; col.3, line 35- col.5, line 63) ; and a virtual hub comprising a firmware unit configured to emulate a hub having multiple ports (Fig.1; col.3, lines 21-35).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed on 6-3-2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant argues that Hanson does not teach an apparatus comprising a first interface unit and a second interface unit connected to the serial interface engine ; and a virtual hub comprising a firmware unit configured to emulate a hub having multiple ports.

However, Hanson does teach an apparatus comprising a first (keyboard) interface unit (40 in fig.1) and a second (flash media drive) interface unit interface is same as optical disk drive (30 in fig.1; col.3, lines 45 - 62) connected to the serial interface engine (summary; figs. 1-5; col.3, line 35- col.5, line 63); and a virtual hub comprising a firmware unit configured to emulate a hub having multiple ports (Fig.1; col.3, lines 21-35).

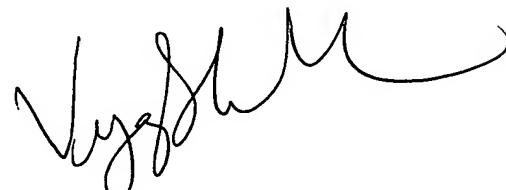
4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VIJAY SHANKAR whose telephone number is 703-305-4763. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BIPIN SHALWALA can be reached on 703-305-4938. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



VIJAY SHANKAR
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2673

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